

# Tradish

## Irish music and beyond

Since the release of “Beyond the Borders” in 2010, life on the road has brought Tradish together not only with audiences apparently hungry for their eclectic approach to Irish music, but also with many diverse and innovative musicians within the vibrant Irish music scene that’s scattered throughout Europe, providing new ideas and fresh material for the new album, “Roots and Shoots”.

Tradish are:

**John Pilkington:** vocals, guitar, bouzouki, stepping

**Louise Ring Vangsgaard:** fiddle, viola, vocals

**Brian Woetmann:** bodhrán, percussion, vocals, stepping



### The band

As part of a living tradition, Tradish are interested in exploring ways to connect the old and the new, the past and the present, respecting the roots yet keeping the music fresh and alive. Every member of Tradish has spent the best part of their lives playing everything from small pub sessions to concert and festival performances, giving Tradish the ability to not only satisfy the hardcore trad. crowd, but also to reach out to a wider audience who might not otherwise listen to traditional music.

### The history

Irish Traditional Music has a long and fascinating evolution. With the hub of activity centred of course in Ireland, it’s sometimes forgotten that many of the great developments in the tradition haven’t been confined to within the borders, but owe a huge debt to musicians either born outside Ireland, or born in Ireland and subsequently emigrating to other parts of the world, taking their music and their culture with them and allowing it evolve.

Over the past 200 years, Traditional Irish Music has grown into a mighty tree with branches stretching around the world. A combination of Irish emigration and the sheer passion of its traditional music has blossomed into what can only be described as a truly global phenomenon.

### The journey

“Roots and Shoots” consists of traditional and self-written material, and takes us on a journey that draws on the energy that flows from the roots of Irish music. It starts with a crazy trip through Galway, and ends up going out to wherever Irish music is loved and nurtured.

Tradish have now released their second album “Roots and Shoots”, which has gathered some enthusiastic reviews from around Europe, and led to Tradish being chosen as one of the 10 bands representing Denmark as part of the “Danish Roots – Growing in the world” music export project.

Following up on the CD release, with tours planned for Norway and Czech Republic, 2018 is going to be an exciting year.

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**John Pilkington: Vocals, guitar, bouzouki.**

John became immersed in the vibrant Irish trad. session scene in England and Ireland since the early '80s. Adopting the nomadic life of a travelling troubadour, singing and playing both in America and around Europe allowed John to soak up first-hand a wide range of roots music from around the world. Blending these new influences with his love of Irish music, John brought all the threads together an album of self-penned songs, "From my Point of You", which was recorded for the English label Making Waves.

After settling in Denmark, John continued to develop his musical vision by forming the Atlantic Wave Band, playing countless concerts around Scandinavia and England, and releasing the album "Serious Hits".

In the years 1995-2009, John returned to his trad. roots as lead singer and guitarist with Irish band Moving Cloud. After setting up his own "Tangled Roots Studio" in Århus, Denmark, John has been involved in a variety of projects as both sound engineer and producer, including all of Moving Cloud's albums. Working together with the iconic Irish producer Dónal Lunny in both Denmark and Japan, three albums were released: "Cuckanandy", "Sweet Nyaa" and "Welcome: Who are you?"

Cuckanandy was nominated for "Roots Album of the Year" at the Danish Music Awards.



**Louise Ring Vangsgaard: Violin, vocals.**

From an early age, Louise trained as a classical violinist but since being bitten by the "folk music bug" as a teenager, Louise switched direction from "violinist" to "fiddler", and has spent the rest of her life immersing herself in both the Irish and Nordic musical traditions. After studying at the "Centre for Rhythm and Music" in Denmark, Louise was awarded a diploma from the Jyske Music Conservatory.

Her fiddle playing has developed not only from years of playing at sessions around Denmark and Ireland, but also as a member of Irish trad. band Moving Cloud, with whom Louise has played countless concerts and festivals. With Louise on board, Moving Cloud released their first two albums "Cuckanandy" and "Sweet Nyaa".

Louise was also a member of "Instinkt", a groundbreaking Nordic Roots/Fusion band and one of only three bands chosen to represent Denmark in the music export project "Danish Roots". Instinkt proceeded to record 2 albums with acclaimed Danish producer Finn Larsen. Both releases were awarded several prizes at the Danish Music Awards, including "Roots Album of the Year".



**Brian Woetmann: Irish bodhran, percussion, vocals.**

Brian has been in demand as a percussionist and drummer over many years in a wide variety of musical contexts, but in recent years, as a member of both Stony Steps and Moving Cloud, Brian has become increasingly focused on the rapidly evolving possibilities of the bodhrán (Irish frame drum).

Experience from other genres ranges from Jazz and Party Funk (with Ruby and Memories Jazz Quintet) to Danish/Rumanian Fusion (with Top Secret Fusion) and Calypso (with Chilis Calypso Band).

As a talented multi-instrumentalist, Brian has both composed, performed and produced all the material on his solo album of self-penned songs "One Way Path", followed by the single "Recall to Forget".

In Tradish, Brian combines his wide experience of percussion instruments from other traditions (cajón, djembe and udu) with the traditional Irish bodhrán. The result is a unique rhythmic bedrock which is firmly rooted in the Irish tradition, but also able to push the music in new directions.